# Welcome to Grand Teton National Park

Few landscapes in the world are as striking and memorable as that of Grand Teton National Park. The Teton Range, the central feature and focus of the park, draws the eyes for miles, captivating park visitors and local residents alike. For generations, the Tetons have touched all who have witnessed their beauty.

Rising abruptly from the valley floor, the Tetons offer a testament to the power and complexity of nature. The mountains, valleys, lakes, rivers, and skies are home to diverse and abundant plants and animals. People have been living in the shadow of the Teton Range for almost 11,000 years. The human history of this area is extensive, beginning with American Indian prehistoric life, to the early Euro-American explorers, and the more relatively recent frontier settlement, which left more than 300 historic structures.

This spectacular mountain range and the desire to protect it resulted in the establishment of Grand Teton National Park in 1929. Over time, through the vision and generous philanthropy of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., additional lands were added, creating the presentday park. This area continues to be protected through the combined efforts of the National Park Service, the local community, and Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem partners. Grand Teton National Park is a dynamic example of people from all walks of life working together to protect a mountain range and its surrounding landscape of natural and human communities.

Grand Teton National Park is truly a special and unique place. With thoughtful use and careful management, it can remain so for generations to come. As with other sites in the National Park System, Grand Teton preserves a piece of the natural and cultural heritage of America for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

While you are here, take a moment to put your cares aside, stroll through a grassy meadow, hike a park trail, sit on a quiet lakeshore, and lose yourself to the power of this place. We hope you will be refreshed and restored during your visit, and stay connected to this magnificent landscape long after you have returned home.



Many high elevation lakes and trails may be snow-covered until mid-summer this year due to above average snowfall.







The Cunningham cabin is one of 318 historic structures in Grand Teton National Park.

# **Caring for the American Legacy**

Grand Teton National Park is one of nearly 400 park sites administered by the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS preserves the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The NPS also cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the National Park Service, a new federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for protecting the 40 national parks and monuments then in existence, as well as those yet to be established.

The Organic Act of August 25, 1916, states that: "The Service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations – by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The National Park Service strives to meet those original goals, while filling many other roles as well: guardian of diverse cultural and recreational resources; environmental advocate; world leader in the parks and preservation community; and pioneer in the drive to protect America's open space.

Please join us in protecting Grand Teton National Park by following park regulations and watching out for your own safety and the safety of others. Enjoy your visit.

# **International Visitors**

Des renseignements en Français sont disponibles aux centres des visiteurs dans le parc.

Sie konnen Informationen auf Deutsch in den Besucherzentren bekommen.

Se puede conseguir información en Español en el Centro del Visitante.

Accessibilty information available at visitor centers and on www.nps.gov/grte

# **Contact Information**

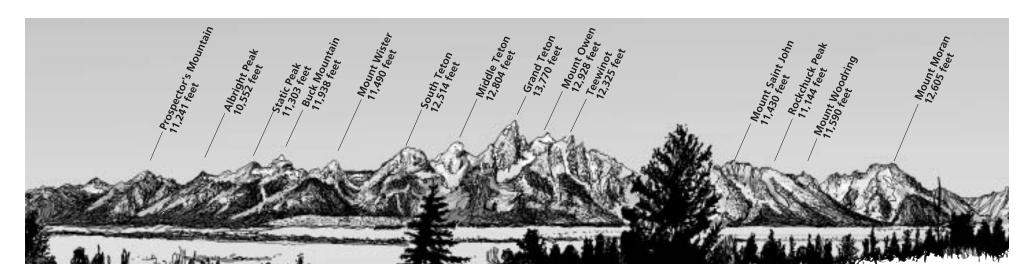
Grand Teton National Park's website	www.nps.gov/grte/
EMERGENCY	911
Park Dispatch	(307) 739-3301
Visitor Information	(307) 739-3300
Weather	(307) 739-3611
Road Conditions	(307) 739-3682
Backcountry & River Information	(307) 739-3602
Climbing Information	(307) 739-3604
Camping Information	(307) 739-3603
TDD (Telecommunication Device for the Hearing Impaired)	(307) 739-3400

# Index

Open/close dates and hours of operation subject to change at any time. Facilities listed south to north.

Gros Ventre	Camping	Gros Ventre Campground	May 1-Oct 15	(307) 543-3100 (800) 628-9988	360 sites, dump station. First-come, first-served.
Moose	Visitor Center	Moose Visitor Center	Year-round	(307) 739-3399	NPS visitor center, open 8 a.m7 p.m. in summer, 8 a.m5 p.m. other
	Lodging Food Service  Camp Store/Gift Shops Service Station Other	Dornan's Spur Ranch Dornan's Chuck Wagon Dornan's Pizza & Pasta Co. Dornan's Trading Post Dornan's Wine Shoppe Dornan's Gift Shop Moosely Seconds Dornan's Snake River Anglers	Year-round June 10-Sept 17 Year-round Year-round Year-round May-Sept Year-round May-Oct	(307) 733-2522 (307) 733-2415 x203 (307) 733-2415 x204 (307) 733-2415 x201 (307) 733-2415 x202 (307) 733-2415 x301 (307) 739-1801 (307) 733-3699	seasons. Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits. One- and two- bedroom cabins with kitchens, located on the Snake Rive Traditional western fare. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. May 11:30 a.m7 p.m., June-Sept 11:30 a.m9 p.m., Oct-April 11:30 a.m3p.n Gourmet items, groceries, cheeses, and deli. Deli open May-September. May 10 a.m8 p.m., June-Sept 10 a.m10 p.m., Oct-April 10 a.m6 p.m. May 8 a.m5 p.m June-Sept 8 a.m8 p.m., Oct-April 10 a.m5 p.m. Located at Dornan's. Mountaineering and camping equipment. 9 a.m8 p.m Automotive fuel, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Located at Dornan's. Spin and fly fishing, float trips, Wyoming fishing licenses
		Adventure Sports	May-Sept	(307) 733-2415 x302	Located at Dornan's. Bike, kayak, and canoe rentals and sales. 8 a.m8 p.1
South Jenny Lake	Visitor Center Ranger Station Lodging Camping	Jenny Lake Visitor Center Jenny Lake Ranger Station AAC Climber's Ranch Jenny Lake Campground	May 14-Sept 30 May 20 -Sept 24 June 1-Sept 30 May 12-Sept 24	(307) 739-3392 (307) 739-3343 (307) 733-7271 (307) 543-3100 (800) 628-9988	NPS visitor center open 8 a.m4:30 p.m. June 5-Sept 4, open 8 a.m7 p.m. NPS ranger station offering backcountry permits, and climbing information. Located south of Jenny Lake, very rustic accommodations. 51 sites, tents only. First-come, first-served.
	Camp Store/Gift Shops Boat Tours	General Store Jenny Lake Boating	May 12-Sept 17 May 13-Sept 30	(307) 734-9227	Camping and hiking supplies, groceries, film, and gifts. Shuttle and tours across Jenny Lake. Kayak and canoe rentals available.
North	Lodging	Jenny Lake Lodge	June 3-Oct 8	(307) 733-4647	Modified American Plan.
Jenny Lake	Food Service	Lodge Dining Room	June 3-Oct 8	(800) 628-9988	Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m., lunch 12-1:30 p.m., dinner 6-8:45 p.m. Reservations required for dinner.
	Gift Shops	Jenny Lake Lodge	June 3-Oct 8		Gifts, books, and apparel.
Signal Mountain	Lodging Food Service	Signal Mountain Lodge Peaks Dining Room Trapper Grill	May 13-Oct 15 May 13-Oct 1 May 13-Oct 15	(307) 543-2831	Lakefront suites, motel units, and log cabins. Open daily for dinner, 5:30-10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons. Open daily. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m-5:30 p.m., dinner 5:30-10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons.
	Camp Store/Gift Shops Service Stations Marina Camping	Needles Gift Store Timbers Gift Store Signal Marina Signal Mountain CG	May 14-Oct 15 May 14-Oct 15 May 13-Oct 15 May 20-Sept 17 May 13-Oct 15	(307) 543-2831 (800) 672-6012	Open daily 8 a.m10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons. Open daily 7 a.m10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons. Open daily 7 a.m10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons. Rentals, guest buoys, lake fishing trips, gas and courtesy docks. Hours vary. 86 sites, 30-foot vehicle max, dump station. First-come, first-served.
Jackson Lake	Lodging	Jackson Lake Lodge	May 22-Oct 1	(307) 543-3100	
Lodge	Food Service	Mural Room	May 22-Oct 1	(800) 628-9988	Breakfast 7-9:30 am, lunch 11:30 a.m1:30 p.m., dinner 5:30-9 p.m. Dinner reservations recommended.
		Pioneer Grill Blue Heron	May 22-Oct 1 May 22-Sept 30		Open daily 6 a.m10:30 p.m. Open daily 11 a.mmidnight.
	Gift Shops Service Station	Jackson Lake Lodge	May 22-Oct 1 May 22-Oct 1		Sundries, magazines, books, gifts, souvenirs, and apparel. Gas and diesel.
Triangle V	Horseback Riding	Jackson Lake Lodge Corral	May 23-Oct 1	(307) 543-2811	Breakfast and dinner rides, wagon seats available. Trail rides.
Triangle X	Lodging	Triangle X Ranch	May 26-Oct 30 Dec-March	(307) 733-2183	Full service guest ranch with horseback riding, and other ranch activities. Winter activities include skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and sightseeing
Colter Bay	Visitor Center & Indian Arts Museum Lodging	Colter Bay Visitor Center Colter Bay Cabins	May 13-Oct 8 May 26-Oct 1	(307) 739-3594 (307) 543-3100	NPS visitor center and museum, open 8 a.m5 p.m. May 13-May 27, 8 a.m7 p.m. May 28-Sept 4, 8 a.m5 p.m. Sept 5-Oct 8.
	Camping	Tent Village RV Park	June 2-Sept 4 May 26-Oct 1	(800) 628-9988 (307) 543-3100 (800) 628-9988	Hook-ups available.
	5 IC '	Colter Bay Campground	May 26-Sept 24	(307) 543-3100 (800) 628-9988	350 sites, dump station, propane, laundry and showers nearby.
	Food Service  Camp Store/Gift Shops  Service Stations	Chuck Wagon Café Court General Store Marina Store Highway Station Village Station	May 26-Oct 1 June 2-Sept 4 May 26-Oct 1 May 26-Aug (depend Apr 30-Oct 15 May 26-Sept 10		Breakfast 6:30-11 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m 1:30 p.m., dinner 5:30-9 p.m Open daily 11 a.m10 p.m. ATM, groceries, gifts, and firewood. Fishing tackle, film, outdoor apparel, beverages, and snacks. Gas, diesel, beverages, snacks, souvenirs, and firewood. Propane, gas, diesel, beverages, snacks, souvenirs, and firewood.
	Horseback Riding Marina	Colter Bay Corral Colter Bay	June 2-Sept 4 May 27-Aug (depend	(307) 543-2811 ding on water levels)	Breakfast and dinner rides, wagon seats available. Trail rides. Scenic cruises, boat rentals, guided fishing, gas.
Leek's Marina	Food Service Marina	Leek's Pizzeria Leek's Marina	May 25-Sept 4 May 20-Sept 10	(307) 543-2494 (307) 543-2546	Pizza and sandwiches. Open daily 11 a.m10 p.m. Dependent on water levels.
Lizard Creek	Camping	Lizard Creek Campground	June 2-Sept 5	(307) 543-2831 (800) 672-6012	60 sites, 30-foot vehicle max. First-come, first-served.
Flagg Ranch	Visitor Center Lodging Food Service Camp Store/Gift Shop Camping Horseback riding Snowmobiling/Snowcoach	Flagg Ranch Information Station Flagg Ranch Resort Flagg Ranch Resort Flagg Ranch Resort Flagg Ranch Campground Flagg Ranch Resort Flagg Ranch Resort	June 6-Sept 4 May 15-Oct 9 May 15-Oct 9 May 15-Oct 9 May 27-Sept 30 June-August Dec-March	(307) 543-2372 (307) 543-2861 (800) 443-2311 (307) 543-2861 (307) 543-2861 (307) 543-2861	NPS visitor center, open 8 a.m5 p.m. Log style units. Home-style menu, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Essentials for camping and fishing, diesel, and snowmobile rentals. Full hook-ups, tent sites, laundry, showers. One-hour trail rides. Guided snowmobile and snowcoach trips into Yellowstone.
Other Services	Jackson Information	Jackson Hole Chamber of Com	merce	(307) 733-3316	Located in Jackson. All services available, visitor center located at 532 N. Cache.
	Environmental Education Horseback Riding Mountaineering Snake River Float Trips	Teton Science School Jackson Hole Trail Rides Exum Mountain Guides JH Mountain Guides Barker-Ewing Float Trips Flagg Ranch Resort Snake River Angler Grand Teton Lodge Co. Jack Dennis Fishing Trips Heart 6 Float Trips National Park Float Trips O.A.R.S. Signal Mountain Lodge Solitude Float Trips Triangle X Float Recycling stations are located t	May-August May-Sept Year-round Year-round Mid-May-Sept May-Sept May-Oct May 26-Sept 29 May-Sept May-Sept May-Sept June-Sept June-Sept May-Sept hroughout the park. P	(307) 733-4765 (307) 733-6992 (307) 733-2297 (307) 733-4979 (307) 733-1800 (307) 543-2861 (307) 733-2853 (307) 543-2811 (307) 733-3270 (307) 543-2477 (307) 733-6445 (800) 346-6277 (307) 543-2831 (307) 733-2871 (307) 733-5500 lease check at any visitor	Field natural history seminars. One- to four-day field trips. Two- and four-hour trail rides from Teton Village. Daily basic and intermediate schools. AMGA accredited. Guide service for individuals or small groups. AMGA accredited. 10-mile scenic trips. Departures throughout the day. Whitewater and scenic trips. Only trips north of Jackson Lake. Scenic rafting trips depart daily. Guided fishing trips. 10-mile scenic float trips; guided fishing trips. Guided fishing float trips; fly or spin. 10-mile scenic trips and sunrise wildlife trips. 10-mile scenic wildlife trips, group arrangements available. Sea kayak and float trips. 10-mile scenic float trips. 10-mile scenic float trips. 5- and 10-mile scenic trips. center or convenience store for more information.
Medical Service	, ,	Medical Emergencies	J	Call 911	
		St. John's Medical Center Grand Teton Medical Clinic	Late May-Early Oct.	(307) 733-3636 (307) 543-2514	Located in Jackson. Located at Jackson Lake Lodge. Open daily 10 a.m6 p.m.
Worship Service	es	Interdenominational Various Park Campgrounds	May-Sept		Sundays, check at visitor centers for more information. Provided by A Christian Ministry in the National Parks.
		Episcopal Chapel of Transfiguration	May 28-Sept 24	(307) 733-2603 x102	Sunday, Eucharist 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
		L.D.S. Jackson Lake Lodge	May-Sept	(307) 733-6337	Sunday, Sacrament 9:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m., Sunday School 7 p.m., Priesthood/Relief Society 7:45 p.m.
		Roman Catholic Chapel of the Sacred Heart	June 1-Sept 30	(307) 733-2516	Call for times and dates.

**Grand Teton National Park** www.nps.gov/grte/



# Reading the Landscape

The Teton Range dominates the skyline of Grand Teton National Park, drawing the attention of all who pass through Jackson Hole. The geologic events that created this dramatic scenery influence the distribution and abundance of the plants and animals found here. Herbivores—plant-eating animals like moose, mule deer, and elkinhabit areas where their food exists.

dropped 15-25,000 feet. Therefore, the total offset on the fault is up to 30,000 feet—or five to six miles.

The climate cooled nearly two million years ago, and Ice Age glaciers began to sculpt the landscape. Periodically ice sheets up to 3,500 feet thick covered most of what is now Yellowstone National Park. The last glacial

Poorly developed, rocky soils cover most of Jackson Hole. As the climate warmed, glacial ice melted and flowed south through the valley. Floodwaters washed away topsoil and left behind glacial outwash plains of sand, gravel, and cobbles. Sagebrush, grasses, and wildflowers have adapted to thrive in this rocky, semi-arid landscape. Some mammals and birds favor the sagebrush flats. Bison graze on grasses; pronghorn eat sagebrush; and sage grouse, large chicken-like birds, eat sagebrush leaves.

and Phelps.

cirques, U-shaped canyons, and polished

bedrock. These glaciers spilled from the

canyons onto the valley floor, gouging out

basins and depositing moraines. Terminal

moraines mark the furthest extent of the

glaciers' flow and create natural dams for

lakes such as Leigh, Jenny, Bradley, Taggart,

The Snake River continues to cut through glacial moraines and outwash plains leaving behind older river terraces that step down to the present channel. Cottonwood and spruce trees, home to bald eagles, grow along the Snake River. Beavers occasionally dam side channels of the Snake River, establishing ponds that Canada geese and ducks use for nesting and feeding. Moose and beavers eat willows that flourish in wetlands along the river. Willows and other wetland plants provide cover and nest sites for a multitude of songbirds.

As you explore Grand Teton National Park, read its landscape. Note the handiwork of glaciers on the mountains and canyons, and the old river terraces carved by the Snake River. Watch for the wildlife habitat that provides clues to the ancient processes that formed and shaped this area.



The Cathedral Group left to right: Teewinot, Grand Teton, and Mt. Owen.

Carnivores—meat-eating animals like bears, coyotes, and weasels—follow the herbivores they prey upon.

The Teton Range exists due to movement on the Teton fault located along the eastern range front. Starting 10 to 13 million years ago, a series of massive earthquakes signaling movement on the fault—caused the mountain block to tilt skyward and the valley block to drop. Every few thousand years, regional stretching breaks the bedrock generating earthquakes up to magnitude 7.5. Each of these jolts offsets the Earth's surface by up to ten feet. Today, the mountains rise 7,000 feet above Jackson Hole and the ancient valley floor has

period began about 50,000 years ago as lobes of ice flowed south driven by gravity. The power of the ice scraped out the depression now filled by Jackson Lake, and carried glacial debris as far south as the Snake River Overlook (eight miles north of Moose on Highway 26/89/191). Today, ridges of glacial debris called moraines support forests of lodgepole pine and other conifers. Elk and black bears seek refuge and shade in morainal forests and forage in nearby meadows during cooler parts of the day.

While large ice sheets flowed from the north, alpine glaciers carved the high peaks. Alpine glaciers retreated around 14,000 years ago, leaving behind high elevation

# John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway

Located at the heart of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the Rockefeller Parkway connects Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks. The late conservationist and philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr. made significant contributions to several national parks including Grand Teton, Acadia, Great Smoky Mountains, and Virgin Islands. In 1972, Congress dedicated a 24,000-acre parcel of land as the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway to recognize his generosity and foresight. Congress also named the highway from the south boundary of Grand Teton to West Thumb in Yellowstone in honor of Rockefeller. The Rockefeller Parkway provides a natural link between the two national parks and



contains features characteristic of both areas. In the parkway, the northern Teton Range tapers to a gentle slope, while rocks

born of volcanic flows from the north line the Snake River and form outcroppings scattered atop hills and ridges.

# **Peak Names**

In the Teton Range north of Death Canyon. Named because it is often hit by lightning.

#### **Buck Mountain**

Named for George A. Buck, recorder for T.M. Bannon's 1898 mapping party. Bannon gave the name "Buck Station" to the triangulation station he and George Buck established on the summit in 1898.

#### **Grand Teton**

Highest mountain in the Teton Range. Named by French trappers. Upon viewing the Teton Range from the west, the trappers dubbed the South, Middle, and Grand, Les Trois Tetons, meaning "the three breasts." Wilson Price Hunt called them "Pilot Knobs" in 1811 because he had used them for orientation while crossing Union Pass. In his Journal of a Trapper, Osborne Russel said that the Shoshone Indians named the peaks "Hoary Headed Fathers."

# **Mount Owen**

Northeast of the Grand Teton. Named for W.O. Owen, who climbed the Grand Teton in 1898 with Bishop Spalding, John Shive, and Frank Petersen.

# **Teewinot**

Towers above Cascade Canyon and Jenny Lake. Its name comes from the Shoshone word meaning "many pinnacles." Teewinot probably once applied to the entire Teton Range, rather than just this one peak. Fritiof Fryxell and Phil Smith named the peak when they successfully completed the first ascent of the mountain in 1929.

# **Mount Saint John**

canyons. A series of peaks of nearly equal height. Named for Orestes St. John, geologist of Hayden's 1877 survey, whose monographs of the Teton and Wind River ranges are now classics.

# **Mount Moran**

Most prominent peak in the northern end of the Teton Range. Named by Ferdinand V. Hayden for the landscape artist Thomas Moran, who traveled with the 1872 Hayden expedition into Yellowstone and into Pierre's Hole on the western side of the Teton Range. He produced many sketches and watercolors from these travels.

From the book Origins by Hayden and Nielsen.

Wildlife www.nps.gov/grte/

# The Migration Dilemma

Birds serve as colorful, sweet-sounding indicators of biodiversity. The return of migratory birds each spring seems as certain as spring itself. National parks like Grand Teton provide sanctuary for many species. Unfortunately, many of our birds spend only a part of their lives within national park protection. When birds fly south each fall, they face numerous perils. Human-caused habitat changes have fragmented forests, removing safe feeding and roosting areas along migration corridors. Birds that migrate as far as the tropics may lose their winter ranges due to deforestation.

Birdwatchers and scientists alike have become concerned about the future of migratory birds. Become involved by enjoying birds in your backyard and during your travels. At home, plant native vegetation to provide food, shelter and nest sites for migratory birds. Protect birds by keeping your cats indoors. Assist scientists measuring bird population changes by participating in bird counts and surveys, such as the annual Christmas Bird Count and the North American Migration Count. Find out about the Partners in Flight program in your home state. Use your interest and knowledge of birds to help assure their future!

# Where to Look For Wildlife

Always Keep a Safe Distance When Viewing Wildlife

All animals require food, water, and shelter. Each species also has particular living space, or habitat, requirements. To learn more about wildlife habitats and animal behavior, attend ranger-led activities.

#### **OXBOW BEND**

One mile east of Jackson Lake Junction. Slow-moving water provides habitat for fish such as suckers and trout, which become food for river otters, ospreys, bald eagles, American white pelicans, and common mergansers. Look for swimming beavers and muskrats. Moose browse on abundant willows at the water's edge. Elk occasionally graze in open aspen groves to the east.

#### TIMBERED ISLAND

A forested ridge southeast of Jenny Lake. Small bands of pronghorn antelope, the fastest North American land mammal, forage on nearby sagebrush throughout the day. Elk leave the shade of Timbered Island at dawn and dusk to eat the grasses growing among the surrounding sagebrush. View wildlife from your vehicle.

#### **MORMON ROW**

East of Highway 26/89/191, one mile north of Moose Junction. Along Mormon Row and

Antelope Flats Road, bison and pronghorn can be seen grazing in spring, summer, and fall. Also watch for coyotes, Northern harriers, and American kestrels hunting mice, Uinta ground squirrels, and grasshoppers in open fields. Sage grouse, sage thrashers, and sparrows also frequent the area.

#### **SNAKE RIVER**

Jackson Lake Dam south to Moose. Elk and bison graze in grassy meadows along the river. Bison also eat grasses in the sagebrush flats on the benches above the river. Bald eagles, ospreys, and great blue herons build large stick nests within sight of the river. Beavers and moose eat willows that line the waterway.

#### **CASCADE CANYON**

West of Jenny Lake. Look for, but do not feed, golden-mantled ground squirrels at Inspiration Point. Pikas and yellow-bellied marmots live in scattered boulder fields. Mule deer and moose occasionally browse on shrubs growing at the mouth of the canyon. Listen for the numerous songbirds that nest in the canyon.

#### **BLACKTAIL PONDS**

Half-mile north of Moose on Highway



Moose



**Golden-mantled ground squirrel** 

26/89/191. Old beaver ponds have filled in and now support grassy meadows where elk graze during the cooler parts of the day. Several kinds of ducks feed in the side channels of the Snake River. Moose browse on willows growing along the river.

# Give Wildlife a Brake®

Moose, bison, elk, mule deer, pronghorn, black and grizzly bears – a host of large animals inhabit Grand Teton National Park, the Rockefeller Parkway, Yellowstone National Park, and surrounding areas. Animals are on roads and highways at any time of the day or night. For your own safety and for the protection of wildlife, please drive carefully and stay alert.

# For Wildlife Observers and Photographers

Be a responsible wildlife observer.
Remember that patience is rewarded. Use binoculars, spotting scopes or long lenses for close views and photographs. Always maintain a safe distance of at least 300 feet from large animals such as bears, bison, moose, and elk. Never position yourself between an adult and its offspring. Females with young are especially defensive.

It is illegal to feed wildlife, including ground squirrels and birds. Feeding wild animals makes them dependent on people, and animals often bite the hand that feeds them.

Do not harass wildlife. Harassment is any human action that causes unusual behavior, or a change of behavior, in an animal. Repeated encounters with people can have negative, long-term impacts on wildlife, including increased levels of stress and the avoidance of essential feeding areas.

Please remember, nesting birds are easily disturbed. For wildlife, raising young is a private affair. If an adult bird on a nest flies off at your approach, circles you, or screams in alarm – you are too close to the nest. Unattended nestlings readily succumb to predation and exposure to heat, cold, and wet weather.

Allow other visitors a chance to enjoy wildlife. If your actions cause an animal to flee, you have deprived other visitors of a viewing opportunity. Use an animal's behavior as a guide to your actions, and limit the time you spend with wildlife, just as you would when visiting a friend's home. Follow all park regulations and policies.



**Grizzly Bears** 

# What Kind of Bear Is That?

Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway provide habitat for black and grizzly bears. To distinguish between the two bear species, see below.

Grizzly Bear Color

Ranges from blond to nearly black, sometimes have silver-

tipped hairs that give them a grizzled appearance.

**Physical Features** 

Grizzly bears have a dished, or concave, facial profile and a large hump of heavy muscle above the shoulders. Their claws are long and relatively straight, extending two or more inches (5 cm) beyond their toes.



Black Bear Color

Color is not a reliable indicator of the species. Contrary to their name, black bears are often brown, cinnamon, and/or blond in color.

**Physical Features** 

Black bears have a straight facial profile and lack a large hump above the shoulders. Their claws are short and curved, usually not extending more than 1.5 inches (4 cm) beyond their toes.



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**Ecology** www.nps.gov/grte/



# Natural Communities in the Park

The natural systems of Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole create a magnificent environment showcasing an incredible diversity of vegetation and wildlife. Many natural communities in the park are defined by the plants and animals that live within them.



# **ALPINE COMMUNITIES**

Plants and animals in the alpine community survive in the harshest of Grand Teton's environments. High elevation, long winters, and short summers present special challenges to the inhabitants above tree line. Summer is short and intense, with long, bright days and cold nights. Lichens cling to rocks and miniature, low-growing matforming plants, such as phlox and pussytoes, guard themselves from wind and cold by growing only inches above the soil. Since bees are infrequent, many alpine flowers have unpleasant odors to attract pollinating flies and other insects. The insects in turn attract horned larks and white-crowned sparrows. The alpine forget-me-not rewards hikers with its vibrant blue color. Yellowbellied marmots often sun themselves on rocky hillsides as Clark's nutcrackers fly overhead. Tiny rabbit-like pikas spend the warm months collecting and storing food for the long winter. Golden eagles sometimes soar on warm air currents searching for prey. By the time snow falls, most alpine residents have moved to lower elevations or begun a long winter hibernation.

# **FOREST COMMUNITIES**

There are a number of forest communities in Grand Teton National Park. Because of the variations in the height of trees, shrubs, and grasses, forests support a wide variety of animal species. The most extensive of the forest communities is the lodgepole pine forest community, which extends from the southern portion of Yellowstone National Park and along the lower elevations of the Tetons to the south end of the range. Elk and mule deer find shade here during sunny, summer days. Red squirrels inhabit the trees, gathering seeds and storing them for the long winter. Snowshoe hares, deer mice, and red-backed voles are among the small mammals found on the forest floor. Black and grizzly bears, short-tailed weasels (ermine) and pine martens prey upon smaller animals. Colorful western tanagers fly through the less dense parts of the forest canopy.

Other forest communities include Douglas fir and spruce-fir forest communities. Stands

of Douglas fir are found on either dry, southfacing slopes up to about 8,000 feet or on dry north-facing slopes at lower elevations. Voles, mice, and gophers also live here; they are hunted by great horned owls.

Other birds found amongst the Douglas fir include chickadees, nuthatches, pine siskins, Cassin's finches, and dark-eyed juncos.

Spruce-fir forests are dominated by Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir and are often located at higher elevations. Moose feed extensively on subalpine fir in the winter months and elk and deer use these forests at other times during the year. Other mammals can be found here, including

long-tailed weasels, pine martens, mountain lions, and the rare wolverine. Williamson's sapsuckers, hairy woodpeckers, Steller's and gray jays, olive-sided flycatchers, and mountain chickadees are among the birds occupying this forest type.

# **SAGEBRUSH COMMUNITIES**

The sagebrush community is the most visible community in Grand Teton, covering most of the valley floor. Rocky, well-drained soils make it difficult for most plants to survive, but hardy big sage, low sage, antelope bitterbrush, and more than 20 species of grasses thrive here. Though it appears barren and sparse, this is a surprisingly diverse community.

Sage grouse use sage for food, shelter, and nesting sites. Arrowleaf balsamroot and spring beauty add spring color to the silvery green of the flats. Small mammals such as Uinta ground squirrels, deer mice and least chipmunks make their homes here. Badgers can sometimes be seen digging burrows

while coyotes and wolves may lope across the cobbly plains. Pronghorn are summer residents on the sagebrush flats; they must migrate south to avoid deep winter snows. Large herds of

elk feed on the grasses during the morning and evening hours of spring, summer, and fall. Areas where bitterbrush is abundant are good foraging places for moose, especially in fall and winter. Birders can find western meadowlarks, sage thrashers, green-tailed towhees, vesper and Brewer's sparrows, and raptors of many kinds among the sage.

# **WETLAND COMMUNITIES**

Wetland and aquatic communities in and around rivers, lakes, and marshes are those that are dominated by water. The Snake River and its tributaries drain the mountains surrounding Jackson Hole, providing a rich habitat for a variety of wildlife. Trout and other fish are a valuable food source for bald eagles, ospreys, and river otters. The slower-moving braided channels of the river are home to beavers, otters, muskrats, and several reptiles and amphibians. The Oxbow Bend is an excellent area to find white pelicans, great blue herons, and a variety of waterfowl. Moose feed on aquatic plants and browse on streamside vegetation.



# **WET MEADOW COMMUNITIES**

Wet meadows and willow flats are covered by water for at least part of the year. A high water table and good soil make an abundance of grasses, sedges, and forbs possible. Small mammals and birds that rely on this type of vegetation are common here. Willows also provide critical habitat for moose, which feed heavily on them, especially in late winter.

Whatever the community, it is important to remember that the wildlife, plants, and habitats within Grand Teton National Park are protected. While birding or watching animals, please keep a respectful distance. Please do not pick or disturb the vegetation. In order to continue to enjoy this national park, we must all work to preserve it.

Visiting the Park www.nps.gov/grte/

# Self-Guiding Trails around the Park

Sample the cultural history, natural history, and mystery of Jackson Hole. Obtain free trail guides at visitor centers and trailheads. Expanded versions of the trail guides for Cascade Canyon, Taggart Lake and the Colter Bay area are also sold at park visitor centers.

#### **CASCADE CANYON TRAIL**

Follow part or all of the Cascade Canyon Trail. From the east shore boat dock to Inspiration Point the distance is 5.8 miles roundtrip (2.2 miles via shuttle boat).

#### **CUNNINGHAM CABIN TRAIL**

Cunningham Cabin is located 6 miles south of Moran. Take a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-mile walk to learn about the early ranching history of Jackson Hole.

#### **FLAGG RANCH AREA**

The Polecat Creek Loop Trail (2.3 miles) and nearby Flagg Canyon Trail (5.0 miles roundtrip) offer scenic hiking opportunities. Leaflets available at visitor centers.

#### **MENOR'S FERRY TRAIL**

A I/2-mile loop begins at the Chapel of the Transfiguration parking lot in Moose, and passes Bill Menor's cabin and ferry, and an exhibit of historic photographs at the Maud Noble cabin.



#### TAGGART LAKE TRAIL

The 3.2-mile Taggart Lake Trail traverses a major portion of the 1,028-acre Beaver Creek fire of 1985. The trail begins at the Taggart Lake parking area, 3 miles northwest of Moose.

#### **ACCESS TRAIL AT STRING LAKE**

A paved trail follows the shore of String Lake for 1/4-mile. Wayside exhibits explain the formation of glacial lakes.

#### **COLTER BAY AREA**

A variety of trails lead from the vicinity of the Colter Bay Visitor Center, including the Lakeshore Trail, paved for 1/3-mile.

#### **FIRE WAYSIDES**

Interpretive signs at Cottonwood Creek

picnic area, String Lake, and Jackson Lake overlook explain various aspects of fire ecology and local fire history.

#### SCENIC TURNOUTS

Consult interpretive signs at scenic turnouts to learn about the natural history and geology of the Teton Range and Jackson Hole.





# DAVE SMALDONE

# This is Bear Country

# A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

Bears become aggressive after even one encounter with human food. Unfortunately, people often feed bears without realizing it. Bears often get food from backpacks and coolers that are left unattended in campgrounds or along trails. Remember, bears can be anywhere in the park at any time, even if you can't see them. Help keep park bears wild and safe. Keep your food items safe from bears by locking them in your car or a bear box. Failure to follow regulations is a violation of federal law and may result in citations and fines.

# KEEP A CLEAN CAMP

After eating and before leaving camp or sleeping, assure that you have a clean, bear-proof campsite:

- All food, containers, and utensils must be stored in a bear box or hidden in a closed, locked vehicle with windows rolled up. The only exceptions are during the transport, preparation, and eating of food.
- Trash and garbage must be stored in the



same manner as food, or placed in bearresistant trash cans or dumpsters.

- Treat odorous products such as soap, deodorant, toothpaste, suntan lotion, and perfumes in the same manner as food.
- For your safety, absolutely no food, foodstuffs, garbage, or odorous products may be stored in tents or sleeping bags.
- Ice chests, thermoses, water containers, barbecue grills, stoves, dishes, and pans must be stored in the same way as food hidden inside a locked auto or bear box.

# BEAR ETIQUETTE

- If you encounter a bear, do not run. If the bear is unaware of you, detour quickly and quietly. If the bear is aware but has not acted aggressively, back slowly away while talking in an even tone.
- Never approach a bear for any reason.
- Never allow a bear to get human food. If approached while eating, put food away and retreat to a safe distance (100 yards/91 meters).
- Never abandon food because of an approaching bear. Always take it with you.

# Help Save Our Bears!

Help us keep our bears wild and healthy. Don't leave backpacks, coolers, or bags containing food unattended for ANY amount of time. Take them with you or put them in a car or bear box. Even food that is left out accidentally can mean removal or death for a bear. Report all bear sightings and incidents to a visitor center or ranger station.

- Never throw your pack or food at a bear in an attempt to distract it.
- Never bury food scraps, containers, or fish entrails. Put them in garbage cans.
- Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended in camp. Bears are active day and night.

Visiting the Park www.nps.gov/grte/

# For Your Safety

#### **PLANTS & ANIMALS**

All plants and animals are part of the natural processes and are protected within the park and parkway. Leave plants and animals in their natural setting for others to enjoy. Even picking wildflowers is prohibited. Keep a respectful distance from all animals to avoid disturbing their natural routines. Larger animals are quick, powerful, and unpredictable. Getting too close can result in serious injury. Take special care to avoid encounters with bears and to help maintain their natural fear of humans. Many small animals can carry diseases and should never be touched or handled. Allow them to find all their own food. Their natural diet assures their health and survival. No matter how convincingly the animals beg, feeding is prohibited.

#### HIKING

Hikers are reminded to stay on trails; shortcutting is prohibited because it damages fragile vegetation and causes erosion. Visitor centers and the Jenny Lake Ranger Station sell topographic maps and inexpensive trail guides. Sturdy footwear is essential. Know your limitations when traveling in the backcountry. If you are traveling alone, letting a friend or relative know your planned destination, route, and expected time of return will greatly increase your chance of survival in an emergency. Permits are not required for day hiking. Trailhead parking areas fill early during the day in July and August, so start your hike early to avoid parking problems. In spring, many trails are snow-covered and you may need an ice axe.

Whitefish and cutthroat, lake, and brown trout inhabit lakes and rivers of the park and parkway. Obtain fishing regulations at the Moose, Jenny Lake, or Colter Bay visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required for fishing in the park and parkway and may be purchased at Signal Mountain Lodge,

Colter Bay Marina, Colter Bay Village Store, and Flagg Ranch Lodge. Fishing in Yellowstone National Park requires a separate permit (fee charged); purchase permits at Yellowstone visitor centers and ranger stations. The use of non-native baitfish is prohibited in all parks.

#### **JACKSON LAKE**

Continued drought conditions are causing low water levels in Jackson Lake. Contact visitor centers for information on the availability of services at Leek's Marina and Colter Bay Marina. Low water levels will increase the risk of boats striking submerged objects and landforms that are normally well beneath the surface. Use caution when boating.

Motorboats are permitted on Jenny (10 horsepower maximum), Jackson, and Phelps lakes. Human-powered vessels are permitted on Jackson, Jenny, Phelps, Emma Matilda, Two Ocean, Taggart, Bradley, Bearpaw, Leigh, and String lakes. Sailboats, water skiing, and windsurfers are allowed only on Jackson Lake. For motorized craft, the fee is \$20 for a 7-day permit and \$40 for an annual permit; for nonmotorized craft, the fee is \$10 for a 7-day permit and \$20 for an annual permit. Jet skis are prohibited on all waters within the park. Permits may be purchased at the Moose or Colter Bay visitor centers.

#### **FLOATING THE SNAKE RIVER**

Only human-powered rafts, canoes, dories and kayaks are allowed on the Snake River within the park and parkway. Registration (\$5 for a 7-day permit; \$10 for an annual permit) of non-motorized vessels is required and may be completed at the Moose Visitor Center or Colter Bay Visitor Center. Read the launch site bulletin boards for current river conditions. On the surface, the Snake does not seem very powerful, but only experienced floaters should attempt this swift, cold river that has many braided channels and debris jams.

## **Teton Weather**

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Avg. Max. Temp. (F)	25.7	31.1	39.0	49.0	60.9	70.6	79.8	78.8	68.9	55.9	38.0	26.0	52.0
Avg. Min. Temp. (F)	1.2	3.6	11.9	22.1	30.9	37.2	41.2	39.6	32.2	23.2	13.7	1.5	21.5
Avg. Total Precip. (in.)	2.61	2.00	1.60	1.45	1.96	1.80	1.22	1.37	1.44	1.24	2.14	2.47	21.3
Avg. Total Snow (in.)	44.4	30.0	20.6	9.3	2.8	0.1	0	0	0.5	4.4	25.2	39.2	176.5
Avg. Snow Depth (in.)	28.0	34.0	32.0	13.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.0	16.0	11.0

#### **BACKPACKING**

Grand Teton National Park has more than 230 miles of trails of varying difficulty. Obtain the required, free backcountry permit for overnight trips at the Moose or Colter Bay visitor centers or the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. One-third of backcountry campsites in high use areas may be reserved in advance from January 1 - May 15 by writing the park; there is a fee of \$15 per reservation. Pets are not allowed on park trails or in the backcountry.

#### **CAMPFIRES**

Campfires are allowed without a permit at designated campgrounds and picnic areas within installed or designated fire rings, unless fire restrictions are in effect. A permit may be obtained for campfires below the high water line of Jackson Lake at the Colter Bay Visitor Center. Campfires are prohibited in all other areas of the park and parkway.

#### **SWIMMING**

Swimming is permitted in all lakes. There is a designated swimming beach at Colter Bay with picnic facilities; however, there are no lifeguards. The Snake River is a swift and cold river presenting numerous dangers; swimming is not recommended.

#### **HOT SPRINGS**

Thermal water can harbor organisms that cause a fatal meningitis infection and Legionnaires' disease. Exposing your head to thermal water by immersion, splashing, touching your face, or inhaling steam increases your risk of

infection. Obtain more information at any ranger station or visitor center.

Pets must be restrained on a leash at all times. Pets are not allowed on park trails or in the backcountry (which begins 50 feet from roadways), in boats on the Snake River, in boats on lakes other than Jackson Lake, or in visitor centers. Pets are not allowed on rangerled activities. Kennels are available in Jackson.

#### **CLIMBING**

There are many risks and hazards associated with climbing and mountain travel. Experience and good judgment are essential. The Jenny Lake Ranger Station, the center for climbing in Grand Teton National Park, is staffed from late May to mid-September by climbing rangers who can provide up-to-date weather and route conditions. Registration is not required for day climbs and cross-country hiking. Backcountry permits are required for all overnight climbs. The park DOES NOT check to see that you get safely out of the backcountry. Leave an agenda with friends or family. Solo climbing and backcountry travel is not advised.

#### **BIKING**

Bicycles are permitted on public paved and unpaved roadways with automobiles and on the Colter Bay Marina breakwater. Ride on the right side of the road in single file and wear a helmet at all times. Riding bicycles or other wheeled vehicles in the backcountry, on- or off-trail, is prohibited.

# Make the Most of Your Park Visit

Short on time? Wondering how to make the most of your time in Grand Teton National Park? Take a look at a few of the suggestions below to help plan your visit. Use the map on page 12. The distance from the south entrance of Yellowstone National Park to the south boundary of Grand Teton National Park is 56 miles; approximate driving time with no stops is 11/2 hours. Please follow posted speed limits, watch for wildlife on roads, and be prepared for occasional delays due to road construction.

# Menor's Ferry/Chapel of the Transfiguration

Turn off the Teton Park Road 1/2-mile north of Moose. The Menor's Ferry Trail, less than 1/2-mile long, affords a look at homesteading and pioneer life in Jackson Hole. Visit Bill Menor's cabin and country store. View a replica of the ferry that crossed the Snake River at the turn of the century. The altar window of the Chapel of the Transfiguration frames the tallest Teton peaks.

# **Antelope Flats/Kelly Loop**

At Gros Ventre Junction, 5 miles south of Moose Junction on Highway 26/89/191, turn east. Follow the road to the small town of Kelly. To see the Gros Ventre Slide, turn at the sign marked "National Forest Access." The Gros Ventre Slide occurred in 1925 when earthquakes and rain caused the north end of Sheep Mountain to slide and dam the Gros Ventre River, forming Lower Slide Lake. Follow the Antelope Flats Road along



abandoned hayfields and ranches to rejoin Highway 26/89/191.

# **Signal Mountain Summit Road**

This 5-mile drive starts one mile south of Signal Mountain Lodge and Campground. The road winds to the top of Signal Mountain, 800 feet above the valley. Summit overlooks provide a panoramic view of the entire Teton Range, Jackson Lake, and most of Jackson Hole. The road is narrow and parking at overlooks is

limited. Trailers or large motor homes are not permitted.

# **Jackson Lake Dam Overlook**

Jackson Lake Dam, one mile west of Jackson Lake Junction on the Teton Park Road, raises the level of Jackson Lake a maximum of 39 feet. In addition to being a reservoir, Jackson Lake is also a natural lake formed by an immense glacier that once flowed from the Yellowstone plateau. Park on the southwest side of the dam and take a short walk for a peaceful view of Jackson Lake and Mt. Moran.

# **Oxbow Bend**

Located one mile east of Jackson Lake Junction, this cut-off meander of the Snake River attracts a wide variety of wildlife. Mt. Moran, the most massive peak in the Teton Range, dominates the background.

# **Willow Flats**

Stop at the Willow Flats Turnout, six miles south of Colter Bay for a view of an extensive wetlands that provides excellent habitat for birds, beavers, and moose. Jackson Lake and the Teton Range form the backdrop.

#### **Colter Bay Visitor Center/ Indian Arts Museum**

Visit the museum to view art created by native people and get a glimpse of nineteenth-century Native American life. Native American and wildlife videotapes are shown throughout the day.

# **Ranger-Led Activities**

During summer, join a ranger for a visitor center talk, museum tour, stroll, hike, or evening program. Attend these activities to learn more about the natural and human history of the park and parkway.

# Take a Hike

Over 250 miles of hiking trails in the park and parkway range from level and easy trails on the valley floor to steep, arduous trails into the mountains. At visitor centers, ask a ranger for recommended hikes and look at, or purchase, maps and trail guides.

# **Raft Trips on the Snake River**

Park and parkway concessioners operate trips on the Snake River daily in summer. Watch for moose along the banks and bald eagles and American white pelicans soaring above.

# Ride a Bike

The Jenny Lake Scenic Drive has wide shoulders and superb views of the Tetons. The Antelope Flats-Kelly Loop provides riding opportunities on secondary roads. Wear helmets and use caution. Ride bicycles only where cars can legally go; bicycles are not allowed on trails or in the backcountry.

# **Horseback Riding**

Park concessioners offer horseback rides at Colter Bay, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Flagg Ranch.

Camping www.nps.gov/grte/





# Camping in the Park

There are two trailer villages and five campgrounds in Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. All are operated by park concessioners. There are eight campsites on Grassy Lake Road that have no potable water and are free of charge.

#### **CAMPGROUNDS**

The campground fee is \$15 per night per site and \$7.50 for Golden Age/Golden Access cardholders. Jenny Lake and Colter Bay have hiker/biker sites available for \$5 per night. Jenny Lake Campground is open only for tent camping. All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but do not have utility hookups.

The maximum length of stay is seven days per person at Jenny Lake and 14 days at all other campgrounds – no more than 30 days in the park per year. These campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis and advance reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds often fill during July and August. Approximate filling times are listed. For status of campgrounds, contact entrance stations or visitor centers. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park. Camping is not permitted within the park along roadsides, in overlooks, or in parking areas. Doubling up

in campsites is not permitted, and there are no overflow facilities.

#### **GROUP CAMPING**

Reservations are available for group camping at Colter Bay and Gros Ventre campgrounds. The sites range in capacity from 10 to 100 people. The nightly use fee is \$3 per person plus a \$15 nonrefundable reservation fee. Organized groups such as youth, religious, and educational groups may use the group campsites. Advance reservations are required and may be made through the Grand Teton Lodge Company at (800) 628-9988 or (307) 543-3100.

# TRAILER VILLAGES

Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch trailer villages have full hook-ups, showers, and laundry. Colter Bay has 112 sites. Flagg Ranch has 100 trailer and 75 tent sites. Advance reservations are advisable. See page 2 for details.

Check at park visitor centers for information concerning additional trailer parks or campgrounds located outside the park.

# RECYCLING CENTERS

All campgrounds in Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway are managed by authorized

Campgrounds		
	Open	Filling Time
<b>Gros Ventre</b> 361 Sites, trailer dumping station.	May 1 – Oct. 15	Evening or may not fill
Jenny Lake 51 sites, restricted to tents.	May 12 – Sept. 24	8:00 a.m.
<b>Signal Mountain</b> 80 sites, 30-foot vehicle max, trailer dumping station	May 13 – Oct. 15	10:00 a.m.
Colter Bay 350 sites, trailer dumping station, propane available, laundry and showers nearby	May 26 – Sept. 24	Mid-afternoon
<b>Lizard Creek</b> 63 sites, 30-foot vehicle max	June 2 – Sept. 5	Late afternoon

concessioners. Grand Teton Lodge Company operates the campgrounds at Colter Bay, Jenny Lake and Gros Ventre, while Signal Mountain Lodge operates Lizard Creek and Signal Mountain campgrounds.

These concessioners fund campground improvements as a part of their contracts. Improvements for 2006 include the placement of recycling containers in park campgrounds. Collectively, these two concessioners recycle more than 170 tons of material annually. When you stay in any park campground, please use the recycling containers to help keep Grand Teton clean and pleasant for other campers.



# Water Warning

Cool, crystal clear stream water looks tempting to drink. As more and more people camp and hike in the backcountry, the incidence of intestinal infection from drinking untreated water has increased throughout the West. Giardia, campylobacter, and other harmful bacteria may be transmitted through untreated water. Drinking untreated water can make you ill. Carry sufficient water from approved sources, such as water spigots and drinking fountains in the park and parkway, when hiking or enjoying any outdoor activity. If you must use water from lakes or streams, boil water 3-5 minutes to kill harmful microorganisms or filter with an approved device.



# Backcountry Comfort

Pit toilets are provided at many trailheads, but there are no toilets in the backcountry. Be sure to urinate at least 200 feet from streams and lakes. To prevent contamination of waterways, bury feces in a hole 6-8 inches deep at least 200 feet from streams and lakes. Pack out used toilet paper, tampons, sanitary napkins, and diapers in sealed plastic bags. Do not bury or burn them.

**Park Partners** www.nps.gov/grte/

# Entrance Fees 2006

All Americans support national parks through tax dollars. Congress allocates some of those tax dollars to each park area. However, costs for achieving National Park Service goals in Grand Teton and other national parks have greatly increased in recent years. Operational funding has not kept pace with escalating needs. Unfortunately, funding available through the appropriation process is sufficient only to conduct the yearly operation of the park. Money is not available for major maintenance projects involving roads, trails, facilities, and infrastructure. In 1997, Congress authorized the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, which allowed selected national parks - including Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks – and other

federal sites to increase entrance and other fees. The parks were authorized to keep 80 percent of the fees collected in the park to address the backlog of projects. In 2006, money generated through the program in Grand Teton National Park will be used for:

- On-going trail rehabilitation projects.
- Rehabilitation and improvements to wastewater treatment facilities in Colter Bay, Beaver Creek, and Flagg Ranch.
- Resurfacing roads in the north district of the park, including roads between Colter Bay and the south entrance of Yellowstone, and the Pacific Creek Road.
- Replacement panels for interpretive exhibits.

Thank you for supporting the protection of America's national parks.

## **Fee Schedule for Grand Teton National Park**

#### **Entrance Fee**

\$25 per vehicle • \$12 per person (single hiker or bicyclist) • \$20 per motorcycle Allows entrance to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks for 7 days.

#### **Golden Eagle Passport \$65**

Allows entrance to most national park areas and some other federal fee areas for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

#### **National Parks Pass \$50**

Allows entrance to most national park areas for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

#### **Parks Specific Pass \$40**

Allows entrance to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

#### Golden Age Passport \$10 (one-time fee)

Allows lifetime entrance to all National Park System areas to American citizens 62 years old or older; non-transferable.

#### **Golden Access Passport - Free**

Allows lifetime entrance to all National Park System areas to American citizens who can provide proof of permanent disability; non-transferable.

# Park Partners



**GRAND TETON NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION** P.O. Box 170 Moose, WY 83012 (307) 739-3403 www.grandtetonpark.org

Grand Teton Natural History Association was established in 1937 as the park's primary partner to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone area. Since that time, the Association has been aiding the interpretive, educational, and research programs of Grand Teton National Park.

The Association has grown to operate interpretive and educational bookstores in five outlets in Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, and several outlets in Bridger-Teton National Forest, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, and National Elk Refuge information facilities. When you make a purchase at an Association bookstore, profits are returned to the park in the form of donations to support park programs. Your purchase also supports the publication of this newspaper, books, and the free educational handouts available at visitor centers and entrance stations.

Be sure to check out the on-line bookstore at www.grandtetonpark.org for all your tripplanning needs and complete the coupon below to become a member.

☐ Credit Card \_



**GRAND TETON NATIONAL** PARK FOUNDATION P.O. Box 249 Moose, WY 83012 (307) 732-0629 www.gtnpf.org

The Grand Teton National Park Foundation was established in 1997 as the only private, nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to raising money for projects that protect, preserve, and enhance Grand Teton National Park. The foundation receives no government support and relies solely on the generous contributions of private individuals, foundations, and corporations. Philanthropy in the cause of national parks is not new. The John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway reminds us that we have the Rockefeller family to thank for a generous 32,000-acre land donation that led to today's Grand Teton National Park.

A major fundraising effort is underway to build the new Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center at Moose that will replace the woefully small visitor center in use since 1961. Schematic design for the new facility has been completed and planning for construction is underway. The Grand Teton Discovery and Visitor Center will offer unparalleled opportunities for information, orientation, and education about Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

If you would like to become a member of the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, or join us in the fundraising effort for the new visitor center, please fill out the coupon below and return it with your donation.



**TETON SCIENCE SCHOOLS** P.O. Box 68 Kelly, WY 83011 (307) 733-4765 www.tetonscience.org

The Teton Science Schools, founded in 1967, provide and encourage experiential education in natural sciences and ecology while fostering an appreciation for conservation ethics and practices. The secluded campus, operated in cooperation with Grand Teton National Park, is located on a historic dude ranch in the park. The Greater Yellowstone region serves as the school's outdoor classroom and model for year-round programs that offer academic, professional, and personal benefits to students of all ages.

Summer programs include two- to fiveweek residential field ecology and field natural history courses for high school and junior high students, and weeklong, nonresidential programs for third through eighth grades. A one-year, masters-level graduate program in environmental education and natural science is also available. This summer the Teton Science Schools are offering 37 field seminars for adults and seven seminars for families. Workshops and seminars for teachers and other professionals are also offered.



THE MURIE CENTER P.O. Box 399 Moose, WY 83012 (307) 739-2246 www.muriecenter.org

The Murie Center is a nonprofit organization located on the historic Murie Ranch, home of famed conservationist Mardy Murie. The Murie Center's mission is to develop new constituencies for wilderness, emphasizing the importance of human connections with nature. The center is funded entirely through the generosity of individuals and the commitment of foundations. Please call if you are interested in visiting the center or attending a seminar.



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING NATIONAL PARK **SERVICE RESEARCH CENTER** P.O. Box 3166 • Laramie, WY 82071-3166 www.uwyo.edu

The AMK Research Station is a field operation of the University of Wyoming based at the historic AMK Ranch in Grand Teton National Park. The research station facilitates research in the diverse aquatic and terrestrial environments of Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks and the Bridger-Teton and Caribou-Targhee national forests.

# We invite you to become an annual member-at-large entitled to a 15% discount on purchases at all GTNHA



visitor center outlets, as well as on catalog and website orders. Many cooperating association stores nationwide offer reciprocal discounts. I would like to become a:

\$25 Individual Annual Member with discount privileges
\$50 Associate Annual Member with discount privileges and commemorative
Grand Teton canvas bookbag

Grand Teton canvas bookbag					
Name					
Address					
City					
State	Zip Code	Phone			
Date of Application		Paid By  Cash  Check			

Grand Teton National History Association • P.O. Box 170 • Moose, WY 83012 (307) 739-3403 • www.grandtetonpark.org

Yes! I would like to be a part of the
future of Grand Teton National Park.

QAND TEXO	
ZANONAL PARK FOUNDS	

future of Grand Teton Nati	ional Park.		
Name	`AARK FO'		
Address			
City, State, Zip			
Phone	Email		
Please include your check made out to the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, or supply the following credit card information.			
Credit Card Type 🔲 Visa 🖂 Mastercard			
Card Number	Exp.:		
Cardholder's Signature			

Grand Teton National Park Foundation • P.O. Box 249 • Moose, WY 83012 (307) 732-0629 • www.gtnpf.org

www.nps.gov/grte/ Fire Management

# Managing Fire in Grand Teton National Park

Today, federal fire management policy reflects both a commitment to public safety and an understanding that fire - a dynamic and natural process – is important to the health of the ecosystem. Grand Teton National Park's comprehensive fire management program balances the preservation of natural and cultural resources with concerns for public health and safety by using the latest science, technology, and a highly trained workforce to evaluate conditions and consider management options. Through fire effects monitoring, vegetation mapping, and GIS data collection, fire managers have a range of modern tools to assist them in making decisions.

Some lightning-ignited fires, when they meet agency criteria, can be managed for resource benefits. These fires are carefully managed to ensure they stay within predetermined geographic areas and weather and fire effects guidelines. This action, referred to as wildland fire use, is critical to fire-adapted plants that rely on natural fire cycles to resprout from roots or open cones for seed dispersal.

Fire can be applied to the landscape to promote natural conditions and reduce

buildup of dead wood and brush. A prescribed fire targets specific objectives like restoring early successional vegetation, creating diverse habitats for plants and animals, while minimizing risks to developments and cultural resources.

Grand Teton National Park manages fire to protect human lives, personal property, and irreplaceable natural and cultural resources. Fire suppression is a key component of the fire management plan. Specific park areas are identified where fire suppression is critical to visitor and resource protection.

Park fire crews mechanically reduce vegetation in developed areas. Fuels around buildings are reduced by thinning trees and removing dead wood and brush from the forest floor. This debris, called slash, is piled and dried for at least a year, then burned during wet weather in spring or late fall. Piles of brush and logs waiting to be burned should be left undisturbed. These piles contain mostly green branches that do not make good firewood.

For more information about fire management in Grand Teton National Park, visit www.nps.gov/grte/fire/fire.htm.



The story of fire can be confusing. While the public is asked to prevent wildfires, fire managers sometimes conduct prescribed fires and manage lightning-caused fires for resource benefits. Fire specialists carefully plan the size and timing of these fires, allowing for a natural restoration of the ecosystem while providing for public and firefighter safety.

# Take A Look Around

Fire has been an essential and natural part of the Grand Teton National Park ecosystem for habitat and forage for a number of species. thousands of years. The presence of fire within the park is one of the significant **North Jenny Lake** factors contributing to the diversity of flora The lightning-caused Alder Fire was managed and fauna and overall health of for resource benefits for several weeks in September 1999 before strong winds the park ecosystems. As we understand fire's suppressed. Four years later, the area is necessary role in the ecosystem, we must also accept occasional hazy skies and patches of blackened landscape. These short-term **Blacktail Butte** In 1998, Grand Teton National Park consequences bring with them healthy conducted a prescribed fire on the Waterfalls changes that sustain south end of Canyon Fire the area's natural Blacktail Butte in ecological balance. order to benefit vegetation and wildlife Many opportunities exist in the park to habitat. The view changes over time after a fire. The change in Alder Fire park staff invites you to height and view the different stages density of of revegetation and explore the diverse firesagebrush Mormon Row adapted vegetation can be noted unique to this from the landscape. highway. Teton Science School Elk, moose, Though Prescribed Fire charred trees and sage or shrubs grouse are Blacktail Butte may no Prescribed Fire frequently seen feeding longer be visible in areas that have burned, a noticeable in the area. Further south of the prescribed fire change in the height, density, or type site is the area that burned by a lightning-

# **Teton Science Schools**

was present.

A prescribed fire was completed west of the Teton Science Schools in 2001. The fire has increased the amount of native grasses and

of vegetation can be a clue that fire

forbs in the area and provides important

caused it to grow rapidly, and the fire was now rich in grasses, and many lodgepole pine seedlings are established in the open

ignited fire in 2003. Here, grasses and forbs are returning to the area.

# **Antelope Flats**

A lightning strike on the sagebrush flats near Mormon Row in 1994 has allowed grasses and wildflowers to again populate the area. Even

# Please do your part to prevent human-caused fires:

- Build campfires only in designated areas, monitor them, and make sure they are properly extinguished.
- Smoke safely. Grind out cigarettes, cigars, or pipe tobacco, then properly dispose of them. Ashtrays should be used while smokers are in a vehicle and should never be emptied on the ground.
- Do not use fireworks or other pyrotechnic devices. They are prohibited at all times within the park.
- Obey posted restrictions. Restrictions may change during dry summer conditions.

ten years later, bison, pronghorn, and elk are still drawn to this part of the valley floor. Near the fire's northeast end, a large area of aspen trees has vigorously resprouted.

# **Beaver Creek**

Stimulated by a 1985 fire in mixed conifers, the area near Taggart Lake is now rich in young lodgepole pines, aspen trees, and snowbrush ceanothus. The Taggart Lake Trail winds

through stands of young lodgepole pine.

# **Waterfalls Canyon**

This fire, along the west shore of Jackson Lake, burned in 1974. Only a few burned trees remain standing. Thirty years later, many shrubs and trees are well established. In 2000, two separate wildland fires naturally burned into the 1974 fire area and fire behavior moderated, aiding control efforts.



Fire can be an effective disturbance that rejuvenates vegetation and is critical in maintaining the natural sequence of plant communities known as succession. During a fire, competing trees are removed, allowing new seedlings to thrive.

www.nps.gov/grte/ Yellowstone

# Yellowstone National Park

All opening and closing dates and hours of operation are subject to change due to weather and other variables. Check at park entrance stations and visitor centers for updated information.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Emergency91	Ι
Visitor Information(307) 344-738	Ι
Visitor Information TDD only(307) 344-539	5
Xanterra Parks & Resorts (307) 344-5433	7

Xanterra Parks & Resorts

TDD only	(307) 344-5395
Road Updates	(307) 344-2117
Website	www.nps.gov/yell

More information is in Yellowstone Today, the park newspaper, available at Yellowstone National Park entrance stations and visitor centers.

# Yellowstone Roads

#### **SPRING 2006 OPENING SCHEDULE**

Spring weather is unpredictable; roads may be closed temporarily by snow or other weather conditions. Snow tires or chains may be required. Weather and snow conditions permitting, tentative road opening dates for automobiles are:

April 21 Mammoth to Old Faithful; Madison Junction to West Entrance

April 21 Norris Junction to Canyon

Canyon to Lake; May 5

Lake to East Entrance

May 12 Lake to South Entrance; West Thumb to Old Faithful;

Tower Junction to Tower Fall May 26 Beartooth Highway; Tower Fall to Chittenden Road Canyon Junction

#### CONSTRUCTION

- Eleanor Lake to the East Entrance will be open 8 a.m.-8 p.m. with half hour delays; closed nightly 8 p.m.-8 a.m. daily.
- Beartooth Highway (US 212): Half hour delays but no closures

#### **AUTUMN 2006 CLOSING SCHEDULE**

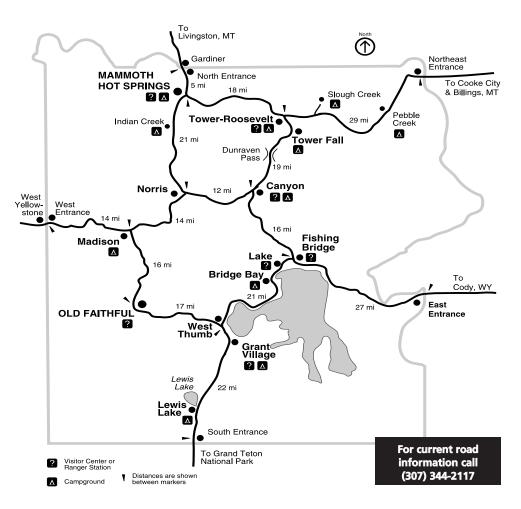
The only park road that remains open to wheeled vehicles all winter is the road from Gardiner, MT at the North Park Entrance to Silver Gate and Cooke City near the Northeast Park Entrance. All other park roads close at 8 a.m. on November 6. All opening and closing dates and hours of operation listed are subject to change due to weather and other variables. Check at park entrance stations and visitor centers for updated information.



Yellowstone Campgrounds First-come, first-served				
NPS Campground	Dates	Sites	Fee	
Indian Creek	June 9 - Sept. 18	75	\$12	
Lewis Lake	June 16 - Nov. 5	85	\$12	
Mammoth	Year-round	85	\$14	
Norris	May 19 - Sept. 25	116	\$14	
Pebble Creek	June 9 - Sept. 25	36	\$12	
Slough Creek	May 26 - Oct. 31	29	\$12	
Tower Fall	May 19 - Sept. 25	32	\$12	

#### Xanterra Parks & Resorts Campgrounds Call (307) 344-5437 for reservations

Campground	Dates	Sites	Fee*
Bridge Bay	May 26 - Sept. 17	432	\$17
Canyon	June 9 - Sept. 10	272	\$17
Fishing Bridge RV	May 19 - Oct. 1	346	\$34
Grant	June 21 - Sept. 24	425	\$17
Madison	May 5 - Oct. 29	277	\$17 *plus tax



# Visitor Services

All dates are subject to change at any time.

#### **ACCOMODATIONS**

Old Faithful Inn

June 26-Oct 10
May 6 – Oct 23
May 5 –Sept 17
May 6 – Oct 1
May 19 – Oct 10
June 10 – Sept 24
June 2 – Sept 17
June 9 – Sept 4
May 12 – Oct 9

#### RESTAURANTS, GENERAL STORES AND **SERVICE STATIONS**

The following locations have restaurants or cafeterias, general stores and service stations: Old Faithful, Canyon, Grant Village, Lake, Tower-Roosevelt, Mammoth Hot Springs, and Fishing Bridge.

# **PUBLIC SHOWERS**

Showers are available to the public (fee charged) at Old Faithful Lodge, Grant Village Campground, Fishing Bridge RV Park, Canyon Campground and Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel during the summer season.

# **VISITOR CENTERS AND MUSEUMS**

Information, publications, exhibits, movies/videos, and ranger programs are available. For details visit www.nps.gov/yell or www.travelyellowstone.com.

#### **Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth Hot Springs**

Open year-round, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. in summer. (307) 344-2263

#### **Canyon Visitor Center**

Opens May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2550

#### **Fishing Bridge Visitor Center**

Opens May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2450

#### **Grant Village Visitor Center**

Opens May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2650

# **Madison Information Station**

Opens June 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 344-2821

**Museum of the National Park Ranger, Norris** Opens May 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

# **Norris Geyser Basin Museum**

Opens May 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 344-2812

# **Old Faithful Visitor Center**

Opens April 21, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. in summer. (307) 545-2750

# **West Thumb Information Station**

Opens May 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 242-2652

# **West Yellowstone Visitor**

**Information Center** 

# **Chamber of Commerce Staff**

Available year-round, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

# **NPS Rangers**

Available daily beginning April 21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; May 29 and thereafter, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. (406) 646-4403.

# Camping in Yellowstone

# FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED CAMPSITES

There are eleven campgrounds and one RV park in Yellowstone National Park. The National Park Service operates seven campgrounds: Mammoth, Tower Fall, Indian Creek, Pebble Creek, Lewis Lake, Norris, and Slough Creek Campgrounds. Sites at these seven campgrounds are available on a firstcome, first-served basis.

# **RESERVABLE CAMPSITES**

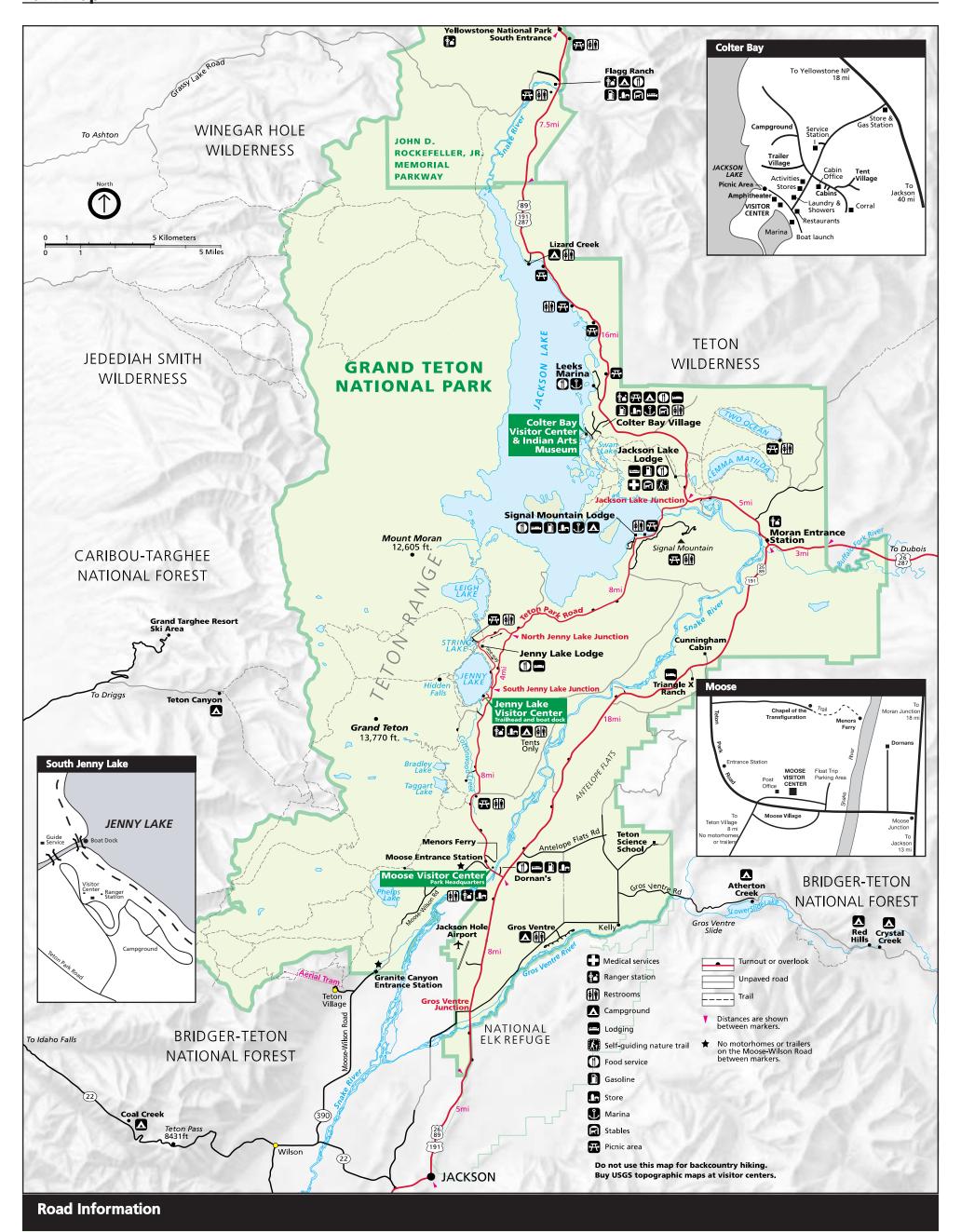
Reservations for campgrounds at Canyon, Grant Village, Bridge Bay and Madison campgrounds and Fishing Bridge RV Park may be made by contacting (307) 344-7311. Fishing Bridge RV Park is the only campground with water, sewer, and electrical hookups, and is for hardsided vehicles only, no tents or tent trailers. Please make your reservations early and/or plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible. Campgrounds may fill early in the

day, especially during July and August. Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic areas or any place other than a designated campground is prohibited; there are no overflow camping facilities. All camping is limited to 14 days between July 1 and September 4 and to 30 days during the rest of the year, except at Fishing Bridge RV Park (no limit). Check out time for all campgrounds is 10 a.m.

# **GROUP CAMPING**

Group camping areas are available for large organized groups with a designated leader such as youth groups, etc. Fees range from \$49-\$79 per night depending on the size of the group. Advance reservations are required and can be made year-round by writing to Xanterra Parks & Resorts, P.O. Box 165, Yellowstone Park, Wyoming 82190 or by calling (307) 344-5437.

**Park Map** www.nps.gov/grte/



# **Road Work Delays**

Road improvements will take place in Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks throughout the 2006 season. For the most up-to-date information about road conditions in Grand Teton National Park call (307) 739-3614 or visit www.nps.gov/grte. For information about Yellowstone roads call (307) 344-2117 or visit www.nps.gov/yell.

# **Move Over and Slow Down**

State law requires motorists in Wyoming to move over and slow down when passing stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights. The law aims to reduce the danger of these vehicles getting hit by passing vehicles. In the last five years, stopped Wyoming Highway Patrol cars were struck on 27 different occasions.

Under the law, motorists on Wyoming interstates must move over to the travel lane farthest away from a stopped emergency vehicle before they pass. On two-lane highways, passing motorists must slow to 20 mph below the speed limit. These actions are required unless a law enforcement officer otherwise directs motorists. Violations can result in fines of up to \$200, jail terms of up to 20 days, or both.

# Recycling

Recycling containers are located at visitor centers, stores, lodges, and in campgrounds. Items collected include aluminum and tin cans, glass and plastic bottles as well as small propane fuel cylinders. Batteries can also be recycled at many stores. Additional items may be recycled in select areas, check at park visitor centers for more information.